Happy Term 1!

Welcome back to school, and we hope you are looking forward to Year 6, your final year at primary school! Year 6 is an extremely exciting year, but requires all children to work hard and try their best.



In English this term, we are firstly reading a wordless picture book called 'The Arrival': *the book unfolds in silent, sepia-toned panels as a man leaves his wife and daughter behind, crossing a vast ocean to a surreal new city of strange creatures, floating objects, and unreadable signs. Navigating this alien place, he finds shelter, work, and friends, until he can reunite his family.* Writing opportunities include: letters, character descriptions, diaries, poster, short playscripts, short report.



Secondly, we are reading a chapter book called 'Leila and the Blue Fox': twelve-year-old Leila journeys to Norway to reunite with her estranged mother, a climate scientist tracking an Arctic fox named Miso. Writing opportunities include: poetry, informal messages, formal letter, short information text, diary entry, narrative and action scenes, tweet.

We practice spellings three times a week using Spelling Shed, with a weekly 'Hive' challenge to check children's progress. Five times a week, we also complete whole class reading, where we read a text together and answer comprehension-style questions: The Invention of Hugo Cabret (by Brian Selznick), A World full of Migrations and Journeys (by Martin Howard), Beetle Boy (by M.G. Leonard) and On the Origin of Species (by Sabina Radeva). Children will develop their grammar knowledge daily using our current English scheme, and are looking at all key stage 2 concepts.

During the autumn term, in mathematics we will be working through the following mathematical concepts (we have a lot to get through!): number and place value; addition, subtraction, multiplication, division; prime, square and cube numbers; comparing, ordering, simplifying, adding, subtracting,

multiplying and dividing fractions; area, perimeter and volume; converting metric and imperial measurements; ratio and algebra.

Children need to ensure that they can recall their times tables fluently, which is believed to be essential for future success in mathematics. Children would benefit from using Times Table Rock Stars to help continue to progress: this can be accessed from home. If your child has forgotten their log-in details, please make us aware.

Our other topics are:

- Science - Animals, Including Humans (circulatory system, components of blood, impact of diet, exercise, drugs and alcohol on health, investigating pulse rate) and Electricity (circuit symbols, voltage and brightness).
- History - The Industrial Revolution
- Geography - North America
- Art - Drawing: Expressing Ideas
- DT - Digital World: Navigating the World
- Computing - Computer Systems and Networks: communication and Creating Media: 3D Modelling
- French - Weather
- PE - Impact with Chris and Steve (Monday) and PE with Mrs Walker on a Tuesday. Children need to wear their PE kits on both Monday and Tuesday. Forest School will take place regularly throughout the term: a list of dates will be made available as and when required.
- Music - Charanga (Happy and Classroom Jazz 2)
- PSHE - My Healthy Self: How do my choices today affect my future health? and Connecting with Others: What does it mean to stand up for myself and others?
- RE - Is it better to express your beliefs in arts and architecture or in charity and generosity? and What difference does it make to believe in ahimsa, grace and/ or Ummah?

Please remember that homework is handed out on a Wednesday to be returned by Wednesday, and will be marked as a whole class. This will be arithmetic and comprehension, alongside spellings and times tables practice. On a Thursday, children need to bring in their Buster Book Club bookmark, as if they read and have their bookmark signed, they might even win extra

playtime! The Forest School dates for this term are as follows: **Tuesday 15th September** and **Tuesday 13th October.**

Mrs Walker and Mrs Lomax